

1805 Josilyn Court  
Libertyville, IL 60048-4402  
13 February 2000

2471 00 AUG 16 P2:24

Commissioner Jane Henney, M.D.  
Food and Drug Administration  
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 1471  
Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Commissioner Henney,

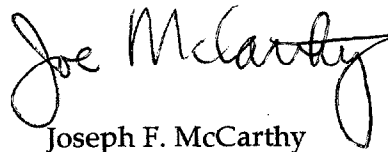
We are writing to urge you to immediately ban animal uses of growth-promoting antibiotics used in human medicine.

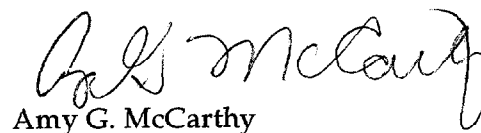
Overuse of antibiotics as growth promoters in livestock has been linked to the emergence of antibiotic-resistant diseases. Many of the drugs used to enhance growth in chickens, pigs, and cattle are the same as, or closely related to, those used to treat people. Fearing a rise in untreatable infectious diseases, the European Union has banned all growth-promoting uses of antibiotics used in human medicine.

While we are pleased that your organization has at least acknowledged the issue and begun a series of meetings to discuss possible restrictions on new approvals of antibiotics, we urge you to follow the EU's lead and move to immediately ban animal uses of growth-promoting antibiotics used in human medicine.

Thank you for considering our views on this issue.

Sincerely,

  
Joseph F. McCarthy

  
Amy G. McCarthy

99P-0485

C2586

Carthy  
silyn Court  
IL 60048-4402



Commissioner Jane Henney, MD.  
Food & Drug Administration  
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 1471  
Rockville, MD 20857

